

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
October 7, 2013**

Present: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Elliott, Councilwoman Landbeck, and Councilwoman Young

Absent: Councilman Garner

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Stephen Smith, Deputy Chief, Aberdeen Police Department (APD)
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Mayor Bennett and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Landbeck.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2013, Council Meeting; the September 9, 2013, Business Meeting/Work Session; and the September 16, 2013, Business Meeting/Work Session.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation and Recognition of Joe Swisher, Planning Commission

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation and Mayor's Medal in honor of Mr. Swisher for over 30 years of volunteer service on the Planning Commission.

2. Certificates of Appreciation, 2013 Cal Ripken World Series Parade

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following organizations for their participation in the 2013 Cal Ripken World Series Parade: Aberdeen Bob Evans, Beards Hill McDonalds, Esskay, Frito Lay, Golden Corral, H & S Bakery, and Mars Supermarket.

3. Heritage Trust Beautification Awards for August

Mayor Bennett presented Heritage Trust Beautification Awards to Jack and Sally Minnear, and to Ross and Joanne Eck in recognition of the outstanding appearance of their property.

4. Transit Oriented Development

Ms. Grover explained that in 2010, Governor O'Malley designated the Aberdeen Train Station for future transit oriented development. The City has since been working with the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Planning, the Mass

Transit Administration, the State Highway Administration, Harford County Government and other agencies to develop a master plan. Although, the plan was adopted in May, 2012, it was determined that the Aberdeen Development Code required changes for friendly transit uses around the train station. The solution was to implement Form Base Code amendments.

Present at the meeting were Ms. Stacey Dahlstrom, Maryland Department of Transportation; Mr. David Dahlstrom, Maryland Department of Planning; and Mr. Pat Keller, Mass Transit Administration. They commented on the highlights of the master plan which included building setbacks, parking, building heights, storm water strategies, landscaping, signs, etc.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, Paradise Road.

Mr. Hartman felt that the police department could have purchased a smaller vehicle to perform the duties required in Aberdeen and not a Ford Taurus. He also commented on a newspaper article that the County Executive announced the transfer of the water and sewer authority of Aberdeen, Bel Air and Havre de Grace to Harford County.

Mayor Bennett said that no decision had been made on the water issue and that the information he read in the newspaper was premature. Regarding the police car, electronic equipment takes up room and the Ford Taurus is one of the smallest cars that can be purchased to accommodate the electronic equipment needed by the police.

2. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive.

Mr. Hiob asked the Council to consider adding a second public comment onto its Council Meeting agenda.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Resolution No. 13-R-12, Maryland Energy Administration Support of Energy Policies and Plans (For Introduction and Adoption)

Mayor Bennett read and introduced Maryland Energy Administration Support of Energy Policies and Plans.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Resolution No. 13-R-12, Maryland Energy Administration Support of Energy Policies and Plans.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

2. Ordinance No. 13-O-07, Amendments to the City's Personnel Policy Manual (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller reported that the State of Maryland has required local governments to adopt reasonable accommodation provisions in their personnel manuals regarding pregnancy under the Americans with Disability Act.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve Ordinance No. 13-O-07, Amendments to the City's Personnel Policy Manual.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business - None
2. New Business - None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development
 - a. Economic Development Grant Approval

Ms. Grover explained that the Department of Planning and Community Development has received an application from 101 N. Philadelphia Boulevard LLC and J. P. Chevrolet, Inc. for the Aberdeen Revolving Loan Fund program established through the Community Development Block Grant Fund (CDBG) in the amount of \$100,000. The Economic Development Commission has approved this and the City Attorney has reviewed it.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund for 101 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, LLC and J.P. Chevrolet, Inc. in the amount of \$100,000.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

4. Business from the Deputy Chief – None
5. Business from the Director of Finance

Mr. Jack reported that Fitch Ratings has affirmed the City of Aberdeen's AA Bond Rating on September 27, 2013.

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky reported that there were three bids for street resurfacing, removal and replacement of concrete curb gutter and crack sealing for FY 13/14 (Bid 13-08). He recommended the bid be awarded to Frank J. Goettner Construction in the amount of

